

# NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

THE WICKED DIGGETH A PIT.

Ever since the time of that ingenious artificer who presented to the tyrant Phalaris a brazen bull to roast men in, and was himself the first victim of his own invention, it has been held that they who helped the bad to power were very sure to pay for it.

If we remember, the bull-maker had so managed his machine that when the victim was put into it, and the fire kindled beneath, his cries, by a vocal mechanism in the throat of the image, were converted into howlings like those of the animal. Certain sounds that are now issuing from South Carolina remind one exceedingly of this part of the story.

Speaking of the late removals from office, the *Charleston Mercury* says of that of the Collector of Boston:

"Mr. CALHOUN and Mr. WILLIAMS were college classmates and warm personal friends. The latter was a thorough free-trade and State-rights man—a faithful and competent officer—and neither he nor Mr. Calhoun had any thing to do with creating the vacancy which he was invited to fill. We have not seen a reason given for his removal. But ex-Governor Morton, a most persevering Van Buren man, is put in his place. He is a man who ought, in mere policy, to receive no favors from a Democratic President; for his violent abolition opinions, coarsely expressed as he had a chance, have been a perfect pest to the party in the South—trumped against us by all the Whig presses at every election as proof that the Democrats and Abolitionists of the North were all of a family. But he was a Van Buren man."

The *Mercury* also complains of the removal of Gen. HARRIS from the Collectorship of the port of Savannah; and intimates pretty strongly that it is because the General "was an old State-rights man," and particularly as his successor, General BULLOCK, was a warm Proclamationsist!

The following paragraph from the *Mercury*, too, affords matter for reflection:

"There is a curious coincidence that deserves to be noted. There were three men in the Baltimore Convention who were conspicuous for fighting after the battle was lost, who would not give up, and could not abide the nomination of Mr. Polk. These three men were Messrs. Bancroft and Morton, of Massachusetts, and Mr. Shields, of Alabama. The first is in the Cabinet, the second Collector of Boston, and the third sent on a foreign mission. Strange, is it not? Does Mr. Polk mean to say that it was a very nasty business making him President, or does he wish us to understand that he punishes his supporters and rewards his opposers, because he is compelled to act at the dictation of others? One or the other seems to be the natural conclusion.

"There was another gentleman in the Baltimore Convention, who, besides being Mr. Van Buren's spokesman there, was conspicuous for the threat which he hurled at that body, that they would get enough of Texas annexation before they were done with it. Yet Mr. B. P. Butler was pressed to take a seat in the Cabinet, and on his refusal was appointed to an office worth \$8,000 a year."

The *Mercury* does not consider. If Mr. CALHOUN could not be kept in himself, how can it be expected that his friends and followers should be? Shall the Ensign be saved and the Lieutenant or Captain be condemned? What! Hasn't the President read Shakespeare?

Cassio. "Well, Heaven's above all; and there be souls that must be saved, and there be souls that must not be saved."

Iago. "It's true, good lieutenant."

Cassio. "For mine own part—no offence to the general, (Jackson), or any other man of quality—I hope to be saved."

Iago. "And so do I too, lieutenant."

Cassio. "Ay, but by your leave, not before me: the Lieutenant is to be saved before the Ancient."

In a word, the *Mercury* must not be presumptuous, nor attempt to look into the inscrutable counsels of Cabinets. We tell that journal that it must have faith; works are nothing: all is now settled by an unseen and mysterious rule of political predestination: "there be souls that must be saved; and there be souls that must not be saved."

France, they say, by means of certain philosophers, fell under the rule of a set of distinguished friends of freedom and of pure reason, called the Jacobin Club. These were folks somewhat addicted to what are called "the spoils," and if a man was in their way or was rich, they forthwith dubbed him "Aristocrat," and chopped his head off. To facilitate this laudable practice, an ingenious artist made them a very nice, rapid, and humane machine, which, as the child of his own fancy, he called, after his own name of Guillotine, guillotine. Well, Miss Guillotine, dear soul! worked deliciously; and he, about whose neck she threw her tender arms, at the magic of her republican touch was an aristocrat no more. Presently, however, her own dear father became suspected; and sweet Miss Guillotine was laid upon the good Doctor's own shoulders: for in those days, as now, they who had no heads were considered the best republicans. What GUILLOTIN had done to merit shortening, unless, perhaps, he rose above the political stature of the Jacobin Club—we know not. He had not managed any Mexican negotiation, nor uttered any memorable words about "the cohesive power of public plunder."

The *Mercury* thinks the President ought to love South Carolina. Bless us, so he does; for "who loveth well, chasteneth well." "Spare the rod, and you spoil the child," quoth Solomon. Mr. POLK is only showing her a little Jacksonian gratitude: for she led the way in the Hero's nomination; and how admirably did he repay her! She is really lucky in President-making—a perfect Warwick—always making Kings, and their fierce enemy as soon as made.

But, as to the love, there are several things to be remarked. After all, the President may love those who opposed him not a whit more than those who lifted him to success. Perhaps he may think that the efforts of the latter in his favor were prompted by something quite different from any violence of affection for him. It may be held somewhat certain that the Van Buren men loved him not before the election: but it would be monstrous to suppose that they have not the most fervid attachment for him since. That is one of the few feelings in them which can never fail. But, moreover, be the benefits from the Calhoun party or the injuries from the Van Buren party they may, a wise King, according to Machiavelli, loves nobody, hates nobody, and views men, not according to his feelings, (should he have any), but his interests. Indeed, men who think they have a claim upon him are apt to be particularly inconvenient. It is much easier to deal with those who know they have none; for to them every favor will go helped with the added grace of its unexpectedness. There are two sorts of gratitude—the retrospective (which usually fails) and the prospective, which is much surer. If a man should be grateful for what has been done for him, he should be at least equally so for what is to be done for him. For hope, as every body knows, is a very charming power, and presents things in a much more enticing aspect than memory. Besides, every body is not blest with a good memory. A man may have little memory and great hopes. Whether that be the present predicament of President POLK, seems to be a matter of very serious difference of opinion between some of his leading supporters.

# WASHINGTON.

"Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable."

SATURDAY, MAY 3, 1845.

THE GOVERNMENT PRESS.

The newspaper heretofore published in this city, originally by F. P. BLAIR, and more recently by BLAIR & RIVES, made its appearance on Thursday night, under the title of *The Daily Union*, and the names of THOMAS RITCHIE as Editor, and RITCHIE AND HEISS as Proprietors and Publishers.

This change of ownership and of title has been the subject of so much public speculation, and so much notoriety has been given to the circumstances which have attended it, that, now the arrangement is completed and we have a *Government Press* established in all the forms, it becomes in some sort necessary to place the documents before our readers. We subjoin accordingly such parts of the publications which have been made as may serve to place the public in possession of all that concerns them in relation to the subject.

To enable the younger part of our readers to understand the matter more thoroughly, it is proper to go back beyond the date of the existence of "the *Globe*," in order to trace to its origin the idea of a government press, or government paper.

Previous to the advent of General JACKSON to the Presidency, there was no such thing as a government press, in the sense in which that phrase is now understood. Whilst Philadelphia continued to be the seat of government, there being several respectable papers published in that city, and the Government in its infancy requiring but few official publications to be made, it was not of necessity that there should be any paper selected as the organ of its communication with the Public. The different papers in the city of Philadelphia took different sides in the divisions upon public questions; but we are not aware that the administration of WASHINGTON or the elder ADAMS undertook, by means of its patronage, to establish any new paper, or to endow any one already in existence.

When, in the year 1799, under the operation of the act of Congress establishing a permanent seat of government, the Government was transferred to WASHINGTON, where no newspaper was printed, which was in fact then comparatively a wilderness—a fancied city, as Moore described it, of

"Squares in morasses, obelisks in trees!" SAMUEL HARRISON SMITH, our honored predecessor, then publisher of a weekly paper in Philadelphia by the title of the *Universal Gazette*, transferred that paper to this city, and here continued its weekly publication; and at the same time established the *National Intelligencer*, to be issued three times a week. That paper, on the incoming of Mr. JEFFERSON, became, of necessity, the organ of communication between the Executive and the People, and justly enjoyed the whole confidence of that distinguished Republican, from the beginning to the end of his administration. The publisher of it did not, however, become the exclusive printer, either for the Executive or for Congress, the printing for both being distributed between him and others.

In October, 1807—more than a year before the close of Mr. JEFFERSON's administration—one of the present publishers of the *National Intelligencer* came into the employ of its then proprietor, and on the 1st of September, 1810, in consequence of Mr. SMITH's retirement to private life, became the proprietor of it by purchase from that gentleman, the other member of the firm connecting himself with it shortly afterwards; soon after which connection it became a daily paper.

During the whole of the administration of Mr. MADISON, this paper was the medium of communication between the Executive and the country, the Proprietors receiving from that illustrious man unvaryingly such evidences of kindness and friendship as they must ever acknowledge with most grateful remembrance. But, during the whole of this term of time, though the paper was necessarily the receptacle of public advertisements, it had neither monopoly nor fair share of the Executive printing, nor any thing at all to do with that of Congress; many things, moreover, which have in later days been paid for as public advertisements being then published gratuitously. Much less did the Executive ever undertake to interfere with the management or to control the conduct of the paper.

On the accession of Mr. MONROE to the Presidency, in 1817, the *National Intelligencer* continued to be the medium of publication of the laws and public notifications; but, no more than during the preceding Administrations, had it any share worth speaking of in the printing for the Executive offices; nor did it derive any emolument from what has since been considered as government patronage of the press. So far from being controlled by the Executive, or influenced in its course by considerations of what advantage it might derive from Executive patronage, it so happened that a serious difference arose between the Executive and the conductors of this paper, a year or two before the expiration of Mr. MONROE's term of service, which was only reconciled after that distinguished and excellent patriot became a private gentleman.

When Mr. ADAMS became President of the United States in 1825, he caused the laws and the government advertisements to be published in the *National Journal* and the *National Intelligencer* during his administration. Not satisfied with the late course of the *National Intelligencer*, (he having been Secretary of State under Mr. MONROE,) he yet did not feel disposed or authorized to deprive the Public of the knowledge of public affairs to which they were accustomed and entitled by confining the dissemination of official intelligence to a single journal, known to be of less circulation than the *National Intelligencer*. The course of President ADAMS being such, from the outset, as the Editors entirely approved, his Administration came to receive their cordial support; a support which had, however, no sort of relation to the patronage of the Executive, of which they were in no sense recipients.

On the 4th of March, 1829, came into power Gen. ANDREW JACKSON, with a "Victory" inscribed on his banner, and on that of his followers "To the victors belong the spoils!" And here, once for all, in citing this memorable avowal of a revolting principle, let us say that we mean by our frequent recurrence to it no particular disparagement to its author; rather considering him entitled to credit for the honesty and courage which induced him freely to avow a principle which his political associates hold in common and put in practice on all occasions.

In regard to every thing connected with the press, this principle was put into instantaneous operation at the seat of government on the arrival of Gen. JACKSON. All public advertising, all printing for the Executive offices, &c. was directed to be transferred to the *United States Telegraph*, a journal established in this city for the purpose of opposing Mr. ADAMS's administration, and promoting the election of Gen. JACKSON.

This was first established, in this city, that anomaly, a government press.

The monopoly thus created was enjoyed by the *Telegraph* for about two years, when, its Editor siding with Mr. CALHOUN in his quarrel with Gen. JACKSON, the *Globe*, which had previously sprung into existence as a fellow-laborer of the *Telegraph*, became the recognized organ of the Administration. The first of the subjoined notices withdraws all concealment from the fact, hitherto only guessed at, that the *Globe* "HAD ITS ORIGIN IN THE WILL OF GEN. JACKSON," and discloses the further fact that the transfer of that paper by the late proprietors into other hands is not a deliberate and meditated purpose of their own, but "a sacrifice" which they were "called upon to make" to an offended political power.

The second of these notices shows that this transfer of the "Globe" to new hands was considered a government affair, rather than a personal transaction between the individuals buying and selling. The President was consulted, and he communicated with General JACKSON on the subject; and it seems the old Chief just advised the President "to take the *Globe* as his organ, and Mr. Blair as its editors," and then, only three days afterwards, upon further information, advised the proprietors "to sell out the *Globe* to prevent distraction and division in the Democratic party;" urging them again, in a third letter, "to sell out and save the Democratic party."

The late "Globe," therefore, as the organ of the Government, has been victimized to a political necessity. So odious had it become to certain "Democrats," by its resisting the scheme to put down Mr. VAN BUREN, that, to avoid the application of the bowstring by the authors of that intrigue, it has actually committed a *felo de se*. Departing this life, it has transferred its habiliments to him who was the leading instrument in the prostration of Mr. VAN BUREN; and thus has come into existence the "Union," as the organ of President POLK.

With regard to the new paper, we are happy that there is, at last, a paper to which we can look with confidence as representing, on all public questions, the views of the Administration. We shall no longer be at a loss to know what are really the opinions and intentions of the President. All these we shall learn through "his organ," the newly established "government paper." In commenting upon its statements or arguments we shall, as we trust our friends will, deal with it impersonally; considering it the exponent of the views of the President and his official advisers, and holding the venerable Editor to no other responsibility than that of a correct exposition of them. Should he, indeed, ever attempt a free flight, he has before him, in the fate of the "Globe," but a type of the destiny which probably awaits the "Union."

FROM "THE GLOBE" OF APRIL 14.  
The *Globe* office and its appendages (in virtue of the agreement which was entered into by its subscribers) "passed on Saturday last into the hands of Messrs. Ritchie & Heiss. The *Globe* had its origin in the will of General JACKSON, and owes to him and Mr. Van Buren, and their political friends, the success which has attended it through fifteen years of conflict, closed by the late triumph of the Democracy, which effected the disaster of 1840. It has been the misfortune of the *Globe*, in sustaining the strong administration of General JACKSON, the uncompromising administration of Mr. Van Buren, and in opposing the administration of Mr. Tyler, to make enemies of some who united with the Democracy in its last struggle. The interest of the cause requires that all who contributed to the election of the present Chief Magistrate should continue to give their support. It is the good fortune of the conductor of the new official organ not to have offended any portion of those whose adhesion to the party is necessary to its safety and success. We have unbounded confidence in the ability, integrity, and patriotism of the man who is now to preside over the establishment, and shall consider ourselves amply compensated for the sacrifice we are now called on to make, if our anticipations of the continued union and success of the Democracy shall be realized by the official journal under its new name and new auspices. We cannot express our gratitude to the Democracy, to which we owe every thing.

F. P. BLAIR.  
JOHN C. RIVES.

FROM A PUBLICATION BY THE FISCAL EDITOR OF THE GLOBE, APRIL 30.  
The notice in the *Globe* of the 14th instant told, in words which I believe have not been misinterpreted by any person, why Mr. Blair and myself said it. I can now add, what could not then be said, that all the principal men of the Democratic party from whom we have heard—and we have heard from most of them—entirely approve of what we have done and of our manner of doing it. General JACKSON and another distinguished Southern man objected at first; but "the sober second thought" induced both of them to change, and recommend the sale. General JACKSON made up his first opinion from letters written to him by Colonel POLK and Mr. Blair, submitting the matter to him and asking his opinion. Mr. Blair did not see Col. Polk's letter to Gen. JACKSON; but Mr. Blair showed his letter to Gen. JACKSON to a member of the Cabinet, who, I understand, suggested that Mr. Blair should state the case fairly. Gen. JACKSON answered both on the 4th instant. I understood that he advised Col. Polk to take the *Globe* as his organ and Mr. Blair as its editor. I know, for I saw the letter—that he advised Mr. Blair not to sell the *Globe* to any person. On the 7th instant, Mr. Blair wrote another letter to Mr. Blair informing him that he had received information since he wrote the letter of the 4th, that if the *Globe* could not be bought, a new paper would be started here, which would be the organ, and advising Mr. Blair to sell out the *Globe*, to prevent the distraction and division of the Democratic party. Mr. Blair received both of the above-mentioned letters together on the night of the 14th instant, after the *Globe*, announcing the sale to Messrs. Ritchie & Heiss, was put to press. General JACKSON wrote another letter to Mr. Blair, dated the 9th instant, stating that his health was very bad, and that it was probable he would not be able to write another letter. In this last letter he informs Mr. Blair that he has left all his papers to him, and requests him to use them in vindicating his character should it be assailed, and urges him to sell the *Globe*, and save the Democratic party if possible.

I lately informed Mr. Van Buren of the reasons which induced me to sell the *Globe*, and I received from him by this morning's mail a letter in reply to mine, which I will subjoin, though it was not intended for publication.

[The letter from Mr. VAN BUREN, here referred to, fully confirms the fact of the *Globe* having fallen a victim to a political necessity. "IN LAYING OUT OF VIEW YOUR OWN OPINIONS IN RESPECT EITHER TO THE NECESSITY OR EXPEDIENCY OF THE sacrifice you were called upon to make," (says Mr. VAN BUREN,) "and in regulating your conduct in the matter altogether by the wishes of those whom the Democracy of the nation have placed in power, you acted with great propriety."

It is thus established, upon the highest authority, repeating probably the language of the letter to which it is replying, that as the "Globe" came into being by the will of Gen. JACKSON, it has gone out of being by the will ["wishes"] of President POLK.]

# THE VIRGINIA ELECTIONS.

So far as the results of the late elections in Virginia are known to us, we have reason to believe that the Democrats have elected their candidates for Congress in all the districts in which they succeeded in the last Congressional election, besides securing three members from districts which were represented in the last Congress by Whigs—thus leaving to the Whigs but a single Representative, JOHN S. PENDLETON, from the Loudoun district.

In the State Legislature the Whigs have a net loss of nine members, which deprives them of their ascendancy in the House of Delegates.

An unusual degree of indifference prevailed in many of the counties, and in some of them divisions existed in the ranks of our friends. Under such circumstances it was to have been expected that the Whigs would lose the State.

MASSACHUSETTS.—Another unsuccessful trial for the election of a Representative in Congress for the Ninth District of Massachusetts was made on Monday last. There were four candidates, and the relative position of parties is about the same as at the last trial. The vote was a small one, the farmers not being willing to leave their labor in the busy season of the year.

WESTERN LANDS.—The Green Bay Republican says it is authorized to state that in all probability the lands on the west side of Fox river, recently surveyed by the direction of the General Land Office, will be brought into market in July or August next. These lands embrace some of the finest timbered lots in the Territory; the soil is excellent, the water privileges abundant, and the whole is contiguous to a market.

IMPORTANT FROM TEXAS.

The New Orleans papers contain intelligence from Texas to the 19th ultimo, from which we learn that President JONES has issued his proclamation convening Congress on the 16th of June, to take into consideration the proposition of annexation.

The *National Register* informs us that the United States Minister has submitted to the Texas Government the bare proposition for annexation contained in Mr. BROWN's resolutions, Mr. POLK as well as Mr. TYLER conceiving it "impracticable" to effect the measure under Mr. BENTON's plan. The same paper intimates, however, that the Congress will be called upon to consider and submit to the people "the whole question of annexation in all its bearings;" and adds, "that the object of the President is to take such steps as shall not only ascertain the will of the people, but, if they shall so require, place us in a position for admission into the Union at the next session of the American Congress."

The New Orleans Bee thinks there can be no doubt that the propositions of our Government will be accepted by Texas, if the state of public opinion there is correctly represented by the proceedings of a portion of the people at their public meetings.

The *Houston Star* of the 19th ultimo has the following paragraph:

"We learn that our Government has received communications from Gen. Austin, by way of Corpus Christi and Bexar, conveying assurances that the New Government of Mexico is disposed to treat with Texas upon the basis of independence. Similar despatches, we learn, were received from Vera Cruz by the Eurymedea, about a fortnight since, and it is rumored that the British Minister in Mexico will soon induce the Mexican Government to present definite propositions for the adjustment of all difficulties between the two countries. It is rumored also that our Government has answered these communications, and the despatches for this purpose were sent back to Vera Cruz by a British vessel. It is expected that the final propositions of the Mexican Government will be received here about the middle of June, or by the 1st of July."

THE OREGON QUESTION.

When an heir to a property attempts to forestall the results of time and kills his relation to gain an immediate possession, an indignant community stamps its burning brand upon his folly and crime. Our haste in reference to Oregon may have less guilt in it, but not less folly. We run the hazards of war, and all the miseries which war brings with it, to get immediate possession of that which time must inevitably make ours.

Nine or ten Americans to one Englishman are now settling there: when, therefore, the population of that country shall reach fifty thousand, forty-five thousand will be Americans; when it shall reach a hundred thousand, ninety thousand will be Americans. Now, does any man in his sober senses believe that these ninety thousand are going to take their notions of civil freedom and of civil government from the remaining ten thousand? Does any man believe that these ninety thousand will forget their lineage, lose their sympathy with republican institutions, and swear allegiance to the British Crown? There is just about as much danger that the people of Maine or Vermont will go over to Great Britain as that the people of Oregon will. It is a slander on their intelligence and love of freedom to predict such a result.

All, therefore, that we have to do, in order to come into secure possession of Oregon, is to let her alone. Time will make her ours, without any fighting either with goose-quills or guns. She is bound to us by the great laws of affinity and sympathy, laws which can be defeated only by rashness and folly. She will come into our arms just as naturally and inevitably as vapors rising up from the sea, floating off to distant mountains, and there becoming condensed into showers, return in exulting streams to their parent ocean. But suppose worst comes to worst, and we have to fight for Oregon; even in that event the longer we put off the conflict the better for us. With ninety thousand Americans there and ten thousand English, or one hundred and eighty thousand Americans and twenty thousand English, who can doubt what the issue would be? We can see reasons why England should wish to push this matter to an issue now, but none why America should, unless it be that Hotspur-ambition which overleaps itself and falls on the other side.

[North American.]

THE GAS WELL, noticed in the subjoined extract, is one of the most remarkable natural curiosities in the world. We have seen one of these wells, and witnessed the application of the gas to the purposes of fuel for boiling down the salt water. The fumes of sulphur and the intense heat of the flame are apt to suggest the idea that this wonderful gas comes from no "fairy region below," but from the gloomy realms of Tartarus.

"THE GREAT GAS WELL."—We learn that the workmen at the famous gas well of Messrs. Dickinson & Shewbury, noticed in our last, have succeeded in stopping off about three-fourths of the gas, and that they will in a few days have it tubed and ready for making salt. We are assured that this well can furnish gas sufficient to run twenty furnaces.

# THE UNITED STATES, TEXAS, AND MEXICO.

The Journal of Commerce of Wednesday contains an article, apparently founded on authentic information, in contradiction of some of the statements that have recently been disseminated through the New Orleans press, concerning the movements of Texas on the subject of the pending proposition to incorporate that Republic with the United States.

In regard to the mission to England of Mr. ASHBEL SMITH, the present Secretary of State for Texas, the Journal argues that it may have in view objects in every way proper and expedient, and entirely distinct from any design to embarrass the measure of annexation; because, even if the Texan Government sincerely desired annexation, and entertained the full expectation that such would be the issue of the overtures now pending, it would be no more than due to the courtesy heretofore manifested towards Texas by England and France, in the early acknowledgment of her independence, and in many subsequent acts of kindness, to explain to them, in the most respectful manner, the present posture of affairs, the general sentiment of the people, and the probable result; and the Journal maintains that such an explanation would be doubly due, if those Governments had in time past been solicited by Texas to endeavor to procure the acknowledgment of her independence by Mexico, and if they had generously and faithfully exerted themselves for that end.

The Journal then proceeds, on the authority of an intelligent gentleman just from Texas, who has taken a deep interest in the affairs of that country, and in every practicable way informed himself as to the present state of opinions and facts, to deny that Mr. SMITH's mission is in pursuance of any plan of operations agreed on by the Texan Cabinet, in consultation with the British Minister in Texas, having for its object to put off all action on the Joint Resolution for Annexation until further advice can be had from England. The present being an important moment for Texas, whatever course she may determine to pursue, there is at least a propriety in her having an accredited Minister at the Courts of England and France; and no new man could be so well qualified as Mr. SMITH, who has resided at those Courts nearly three years, and been an instrument in all that transpired between those Governments and his own during that period. This is the whole reason why the "Chief Officer of State in Texas" was appointed to the mission in question. There is no evidence that Mr. SMITH or the Texan President and Cabinet are opposed to annexation—they having deemed it proper, in the present crisis, to avoid any public declaration of their views on this subject.

The Journal also says it is not true that President JONES has been tampered with by the English and French Ministers, or that he has promised them any delay in submitting the proposition of the United States Government to the Congress or People of Texas. On the contrary, it was well understood that as soon as the President should be formally in possession of the overtures of the United States Government, he would submit them directly to the people for their adoption or rejection. Besides the expense of an extra session of Congress, his mind was doubtless influenced by the further consideration that the members were not elected with any special reference to the question of annexation, and that, even if referred to them in the first instance, it must after all go back to the people for final decision.

The Journal further says, it is true that Mexico has offered to acknowledge the independence of Texas, if the latter will renounce for ever the idea of annexation to the United States. It may, however, be presumed that in proffering such an acknowledgment Mexico would seek to place the dividing line as far east as possible, and perhaps also require a certain amount of indemnity as a salvo for her honor. On each of these points the Texan Government must have a definite understanding with Mexico, before it will be able to judge whether the proposition of the latter is worthy of serious consideration. Such an understanding may possibly be gained through the instrumentality of the British and French Ministers, both of whom decidedly prefer independence to annexation. Should a direct offer of a satisfactory character be made by Mexico, before the question of annexation is submitted to the people, the President may deem it his duty to present both propositions to them simultaneously. Annexation or Independence—that they may choose between them. There is, however, no reasonable doubt of the result. Almost all the Americans, who constitute the great majority of the population, are favorable to annexation.

It is denied that Mr. DOVERSON, our Chargé d'Affaires, was treated with discourtesy or neglect on his recent arrival at the seat of the Texan Government. He arrived on Sunday, and was courteously received by President JONES on the next day, to the entire satisfaction of Mr. D.

It is not true (the Journal continues) that Messrs. ELLIOT and SALIGNY, the British and French Ministers, left Texas for the purpose of visiting Washington, (this city.) Mr. ELLIOT had no special object in going to the United States, other than recreation. Mr. SALIGNY went only to New Orleans, where he is accustomed to spend the greater part of his time, making occasional visits to Texas as circumstances require.

It is not true that Messrs. ELLIOT and SALIGNY visited the Texan capital (Washington) immediately on the arrival of the British frigate Eurymedea with despatches from Vera Cruz. The despatches which induced them to visit Washington were not brought by the Eurymedea, but came from England and France by way of the West Indies. The despatches by the Eurymedea met them on their return from Washington to Galveston; and, after opening them and partially reading them, they continued their course to Galveston, and had not again visited Washington.

In conclusion, the Journal expresses its belief that the Texan Government is pursuing an honest, patriotic, and judicious course; and adds, on the authority before cited, that ten per cent. duty on imports is sufficient to raise all the revenue necessary to meet the ordinary expenses of Government, and that fifteen per cent. would leave a considerable surplus. The actual public debt is between \$12,000,000 and \$13,000,000; the country is extremely prosperous; business good; the products of the earth abundant; and the currency unquestionable, consisting of gold and silver.

The entire United States force in the Gulf of Mexico will soon be as follows:

Steamer Princeton	10 guns.
Ship Saratoga	30 "
Ship St. Mary	30 "
Brig Porpoise	10 "
Frigate Potomac	44 "
Ship Vincennes	20 "
Ship Falomah	20 "
Brig Somers	10 "
Total number of guns	154

THE SWALLOW.—The wreck of the steamboat Swallow was got sufficiently afloat on Saturday to enable her to work on her tow her ashore. The attempt to get her ashore was, however, attended with another disaster, which may prevent her being brought to the surface for several days. In towing round the bull toward the Athens shore, it was found that one of her buoys was sinking; to save the Swallow and the buoys, they were compelled to let the S. go, and she sunk into the deepest part of the channel, where she now lies in a more critical position than ever.

The body of the little son of Judge MATHER, who was lost at the stranding of the Swallow, has been found.

# OFFICIAL.

## RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

The receipts into the Treasury during the quarter ending the 31st April were, as nearly as can be ascertained—

From Customs	\$6,375,575 71
" Lands	485,532 20
" Miscellaneous sources	20,000 00
	\$6,881,107 91

The expenditures during the same period have been, viz:

Civil list, Miscellaneous, and Foreign Inter-course	\$1,708,407 96
On account of Army	\$1,131,826 56
Indian Department	\$2,930 07
Fortifications	\$6,412 50
Pensions	1,406,199 19
Navy	\$2,647,368 32
Interest on the public debt	1,578,631 00
Reimbursement of loan of 1841	38,062 71
Do do 1843	4,913,686 94
Reimbursement and interest of Treasury notes	841,048 04
	\$12,126,204 97

R. J. WALKER,  
Secretary of the Treasury.  
TREASURY DEPARTMENT, APRIL 31, 1845.

TREASURY NOTES OUTSTANDING, MAY 1, 1845.  
Amount of the several issues outstanding 1st May, 1845, as per records of this office \$977,414 18  
Deduct cancelled notes in the hands of the accounting officers 54,062 78  
\$923,351 40

R. H. GILLET, Register.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,  
Register's Office, May 1, 1845.

## STEAM NAVIES.

FROM THE NEW YORK COURIER AND ENQUIRER.

We published several days ago a detailed and authentic list of the war steamers of England, which, in contrast with our lack of such an armament, was fitted to attract attention.

We now annex another notice of the progress made by other European nations in adopting this new element of naval warfare. It appears that even the humblest of the Mediterranean Powers—decayed Venice, and Sardinia with its single seaport—go ahead, in war steamers, of the nation from which proceeded the first successful application of steam to purposes of navigation; and which counts itself third and almost second among the maritime Powers of the world.

It is no reproach, perhaps it is no disadvantage to the United States, that they have not kept pace with the Governments of the Old World in building and equipping vessels of this kind—for as yet the whole matter is more or less experimental, and with one "fixed fact," that steam may be advantageously employed to propel vessels of war, there is the greatest uncertainty as to the mode in which this agent can be best employed.

It would therefore have been idle for us, while others were making experiments on a large scale, by the result of